

Story 1047 (1974 Tape 51

Narrator: Bayram Şahin, 73

Location: Limonlu village,
Mersin kaza, İçel
Province

Date: 1974

136
Nimrod¹ and the Prophet Abraham

Nimrod said to the prophet Hâlil Abraham, "O Abraham, have you understood the Last Judgment Day so well that you could stand up in the middle of a crowd and explain what occur then? First you would have to state what sign will indicate the coming of Judgment Day, and then you would have to explain what will happen." Nimrod then took a piece of chalk, crushed it in his hand, and blew away the dust. He then said, "The person who dies will become and will be blown away like this. There is no such thing as Judgment Day!"

When he was alone after that, Hâlil Abraham prayed. He said, "My God, what shall I say if this infidel asks me again about Judgment Day? Show me what it will be like."

God said, "O my Hâlil, bring me four birds." Hâlil Abraham brought four birds. One was a pigeon, one was a peacock, one was a rooster, and one was a crow.

God then said, "Cut off their heads." Abraham cut

¹See special ATON NOTES volumes for data on Nimrod (Nemrut) in Turkish tales.

Story 1047

their heads

God then said, "Now grind up these birds so fine you can mix them all together in a paste." After this had been done, God continued, "Now divide this mix-up into four parts." When this had been done, God said, "Put these four parts of the mixture on top of four different rocks." This was done. "Now place a rock on top of each part." And this too was done.

After the bodies of the birds had been treated in this way, God said, "Now take the birds' heads to the top of that mountain over there and call the birds."

Abraham took the birds' heads to the top of the mountain, and there he called out, "Come here, birds!" The birds came, and the flesh and feathers of each were separated from the rest, and each bird, trembling, attached itself to its own head.

There stood the four birds just as they had been originally.

God then said, "This is how it will be on Judgment Day. I shall separate and mix but still keep everything recoverable. Tell Nimrod this if he asks again."